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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 AID-05 /081 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184917

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
REPORT - JULY 30 - AUGUST 5

1. NEGOTIATIONS. PANAMANIAN PLANNING MINISTER BARLETTA
RETURNED TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK FOR DISCUSSIONS OF ECON-
OMIC MATTERS INCLUDING PAYMENTS TO PANAMA FROM CANAL REV-
ENUES AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
TREATY. THE U.S. SIDE PRESENTED ITS RESPONSE TO THE ECON-
OMIC PROPOSALS MADE EARLIER BY THE PANAMANIANS. AS A
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RESULT OF THESE DISCUSSIONS THERE APPEARS FOR THE FIRST
TIME TO BE SOME PROGRESS TOWARD RESOLUTION OF ECONOMIC
ISSUES RELATED TO A NEW TREATY.

IN ADDITION, TECHNICAL LEVEL DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE DURING
THE WEEK ON LANDS AND WATERS AND EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND BENE-
FITS. - -

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2. MEDIA. THE MAJOR MEDIA GAVE ONLY MINIMAL COVERAGE TO A LENGTHY INFORMATION STATEMENT ON THE PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS PREPARED AND DISTRIBUTED NATIONWIDE TO THE PRESS BY THE WHITE HOUSE ON JULY 29. THE LEHRER-MCNEIL EVENING PBS TELEVISION SHOW AUGUST 1 WAS DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS FEATURING PANAMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK STAGG, WINTHROP CARTY OF VISION MAGAZINE, REP. SOLARZ (D-N.Y.), AND SEN. HATCH (R-UTAH). ALL EXCEPT HATCH SPOKE IN FAVOR OF A NEW TREATY.

3. CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS. PERSONNEL OF THE WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON STAFFS HAVE CONSULTED WITH OVER SIXTY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, MOSTLY IN THE SENATE, ON THE ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED IN CONNECTION WITH A NEW CANAL TREATY.

4. ANTI-PANAMA AMENDMENTS. SEN. ALLEN (D-ALA.) ON AUGUST 3 ANNOUNCED HE WOULD INTRODUCE TWO AMENDMENTS CONCERNING PANAMA TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTNACE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, ONE WOULD LIMIT TO $25 MILLION THE FUNDS FROM THE ACT THAT COULD BE EXPENDED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF PANAMA. THE SECOND AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR LIMITING ANNUAL IBRD LENDING TO PANAMA TO FIVE PERCENT OF TOTAL IBRD LOANS OUTSTANDING TO PANAMA AS OF JULY 1, 1977. CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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